

Message Text

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S E C R E T USNATO 03526

NODIS CHEROKEE

PERSONAL FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT:ERW

REF: STATE 88368

1. YOUR TELEGRAM 88368 WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR TOMORROW'S MEETING OF 14 (FRANCE NOT PRESENT) ON ERW JUST RECEIVED -- DELIGHTED TO HAVE IT. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT LOOKS EXCELLENT TO ME.

2. UNFORTUNATELY I SEE PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SUMMING-UP STATEMENT BY LUNS AT TOMORROW'S MEETING. THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH LUNS, BUT PERMREPS ARE AFTER ALL INSTRUCTED DELEGATES. I DO NOT BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE WITH THIS SUMMING-UP STATEMENT ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT ISSUE WITHOUT IN MOST CASES REFERRING IT TO CAPITALS. YOU MAY WISH TO GO URGENTLY TO CAPITALS IF THIS HAS NOT BEEN DONE IN ORDER TO GET APPROVALS WHICH WOULD ENABLE AGREEMENT TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

3. ALTHOUGH I CAN WELL IMAGINE HEAVY PRESSURES THERE FOR EARLY ISSUANCE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT, I DOUBT WE

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COULD EXPECT APPROVAL OF PROPOSED LUNS STATEMENT BEFORE TUESDAY MORNING SINCE ENTIRE COUNCIL SCHEDULED SPEND MONDAY IN OSTEND VISITING BELGIAN NAVAL FORCES. EVEN IF BELGIANS WILLING TO CHANGE LONG-LAID PLANS, CANCELLATION AND PUBLICITY THAT WOULD FOLLOW WOULD GIVE UNWANTED AIR OF CRISIS. WE COULD OF COURSE INSIST ON SATURDAY MEETING BUT THAT WOULD BE SHORT NOTICE FOR CAPITALS.

4. WE MIGHT BETTER CONSIDER SETTling FOR SHORTER AND LESS BINDING STATEMENT ON WHICH THE 14 COULD HOPEFULLY AGREE TOMORROW. I SUGGEST FOLLOWING:

-- FIRST PARA WOULD REMAIN AS IS, ALTHOUGH WE MIGHT HAVE TO PUT PERIOD AFTER "MILITARY CAPABILITIES" TO AVOID DUTCH FALL-OFF OVER WORD "NUCLEAR".

-- IN VIEW FRENCH NON-PARTICIPATION, WE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE OUT REFERENCE TO NAC IN SECOND PARA. SENTENCE WOULD READ "THEY AGREE TO CONTINUE TO DISCUSS..."

-- WE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO DROP FINAL PARA. WE MAY ALSO HAVE PROBLEM WITH PHRASE IN SECOND PARA THAT "ALLIES AGREED WITH US DECISION TO DEFER PRODUCTION". IT SEEMS TO US THAT WOULD BE KEY POINT TO SHOW ALLIED UNITY BUT WE HAVE TO RECOGNIZE MANY ARE NOW DUG IN ON POINT THAT PRODUCTION IS DECISION FOR US ALONE AND THEY ARE NOT CALLED ON TO AGREE OR DISAGREE. WE MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT A VERB SUCH AS "TOOK NOTE".

5. NATURALLY I SHALL WORK WITH LUNS AND GO ALL OUT FOR FULL TEXT AS PROPOSED. IF I COULD BE AUTHORIZED FLEXIBILITY ALONG ABOVE LINES, HOWEVER, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET AGREEMENT ON A SUITABLE STATEMENT TOMORROW.

6. THERE MAY WELL BE SOME TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AT
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TOMORROW'S MEETING WHICH WE OUGHT TO BE IN A POSITION TO ANSWER. FOR INSTANCE, WHAT DO WE MEAN IN PARA 2 OF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT BY "MODERNIZATION REPEAT MODERNIZATION F THE LANCE MISSILE NUCLEAR WARHEAD AND THE EIGHT-INCH WEAPON SYSTEM", SHORT OF INSTALLING OF ER ELEMENTS? I WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON THIS POINT AS A LIKELY QUESTION FOR TOMORROW.
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